



General Assembly

Amendment

November 24 Special Session, 2008

LCO No. 7064

SB0120007064SR0

Offered by:

SEN. RORABACK, 30th Dist.

SEN. FREEDMAN, 26th Dist.

SEN. FASANO, 34th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 1200

File No.

Cal. No.

***"AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS MEASURES TO PROVIDE
RELIEF FOR MUNICIPALITIES."***

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 1-225 of the 2008 supplement to the general
4 statutes, as amended by section 2 of public act 08-18 and section 11 of
5 public act 08-3 of the June 11 special session, is repealed and the
6 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

7 (a) The meetings of all public agencies, except executive sessions, as
8 defined in subdivision (6) of section 1-200, shall be open to the public.
9 The votes of each member of any such public agency upon any issue
10 before such public agency shall be reduced to writing and made
11 available for public inspection within forty-eight hours and shall also
12 be recorded in the minutes of the session at which taken. Within seven
13 days of the session to which such minutes refer, such minutes shall be

14 available for public inspection and [posted on such public agency's
15 Internet web site, if available] such agency shall use its best efforts to
16 post such minutes on the agency's Internet web site, if available.
17 Failure to post such minutes on the agency's Internet web site within
18 such seven-day period shall not constitute failure to comply with the
19 requirements of this chapter. Each such agency shall make, keep and
20 maintain a record of the proceedings of its meetings.

21 (b) Each such public agency of the state shall file not later than
22 January thirty-first of each year in the office of the Secretary of the
23 State the schedule of the regular meetings of such public agency for the
24 ensuing year and shall use its best efforts to post such schedule on
25 such public agency's Internet web site, if available, except that such
26 requirements shall not apply to the General Assembly, either house
27 thereof or to any committee thereof. Failure to post such schedule on
28 the agency's Internet web site shall not constitute failure to comply
29 with the requirements of this chapter. Any other provision of the
30 Freedom of Information Act notwithstanding, the General Assembly at
31 the commencement of each regular session in the odd-numbered years,
32 shall adopt, as part of its joint rules, rules to provide notice to the
33 public of its regular, special, emergency or interim committee
34 meetings. The chairperson or secretary of any such public agency of
35 any political subdivision of the state shall file, not later than January
36 thirty-first of each year, with the clerk of such subdivision the schedule
37 of regular meetings of such public agency for the ensuing year, and no
38 such meeting of any such public agency shall be held sooner than
39 thirty days after such schedule has been filed. The chief executive
40 officer of any multitown district or agency shall file, not later than
41 January thirty-first of each year, with the clerk of each municipal
42 member of such district or agency, the schedule of regular meetings of
43 such public agency for the ensuing year, and no such meeting of any
44 such public agency shall be held sooner than thirty days after such
45 schedule has been filed.

46 (c) The agenda of the regular meetings of every public agency,
47 except for the General Assembly, shall be available to the public and

48 shall be filed, not less than twenty-four hours before the meetings to
49 which they refer, (1) in such agency's regular office or place of
50 business, and (2) in the office of the Secretary of the State for any such
51 public agency of the state, in the office of the clerk of such subdivision
52 for any public agency of a political subdivision of the state or in the
53 office of the clerk of each municipal member of any multitown district
54 or agency. For any such public agency of the state, such agenda shall
55 be posted on the public agency's and the Secretary of the State's web
56 sites. Upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of a
57 public agency present and voting, any subsequent business not
58 included in such filed agendas may be considered and acted upon at
59 such meetings.

60 (d) Notice of each special meeting of every public agency, except for
61 the General Assembly, either house thereof or any committee thereof,
62 shall be [posted not less than twenty-four hours before the meeting to
63 which such notice refers on the public agency's Internet web site, if
64 available, and] given not less than twenty-four hours prior to the time
65 of such meeting by filing a notice of the time and place thereof in the
66 office of the Secretary of the State for any such public agency of the
67 state, in the office of the clerk of such subdivision for any public
68 agency of a political subdivision of the state and in the office of the
69 clerk of each municipal member for any multitown district or agency.
70 Every public agency, except for the General Assembly, either house
71 thereof or any committee thereof, shall use its best efforts to post such
72 notice on the public agency's Internet web site, if available, not less
73 than twenty-four hours before the meeting to which such notice refers.
74 Failure to post such notice on the agency's Internet web site shall not
75 constitute failure to comply with the requirements of this chapter. The
76 secretary or clerk shall cause any notice received under this section to
77 be posted in his office. Such notice shall be given not less than twenty-
78 four hours prior to the time of the special meeting; provided, in case of
79 emergency, except for the General Assembly, either house thereof or
80 any committee thereof, any such special meeting may be held without
81 complying with the foregoing requirement for the filing of notice but a

82 copy of the minutes of every such emergency special meeting
83 adequately setting forth the nature of the emergency and the
84 proceedings occurring at such meeting shall be filed with the Secretary
85 of the State, the clerk of such political subdivision, or the clerk of each
86 municipal member of such multitown district or agency, as the case
87 may be, not later than seventy-two hours following the holding of such
88 meeting. The notice shall specify the time and place of the special
89 meeting and the business to be transacted. No other business shall be
90 considered at such meetings by such public agency. In addition, such
91 written notice shall be delivered to the usual place of abode of each
92 member of the public agency so that the same is received prior to such
93 special meeting. The requirement of delivery of such written notice
94 may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time
95 the meeting convenes files with the clerk or secretary of the public
96 agency a written waiver of delivery of such notice. Such waiver may be
97 given by telegram. The requirement of delivery of such written notice
98 may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present
99 at the meeting at the time it convenes. Nothing in this section shall be
100 construed to prohibit any agency from adopting more stringent notice
101 requirements.

102 (e) No member of the public shall be required, as a condition to
103 attendance at a meeting of any such body, to register the member's
104 name, or furnish other information, or complete a questionnaire or
105 otherwise fulfill any condition precedent to the member's attendance.

106 (f) A public agency may hold an executive session, as defined in
107 subdivision (6) of section 1-200, upon an affirmative vote of two-thirds
108 of the members of such body present and voting, taken at a public
109 meeting and stating the reasons for such executive session, as defined
110 in section 1-200.

111 (g) In determining the time within which or by when a notice,
112 agenda, record of votes or minutes of a special meeting or an
113 emergency special meeting are required to be filed under this section,
114 Saturdays, Sundays, legal holidays and any day on which the office of

115 the agency, the Secretary of the State or the clerk of the applicable
116 political subdivision or the clerk of each municipal member of any
117 multitown district or agency, as the case may be, is closed, shall be
118 excluded."